

might be classed as intermediate, which would seem to confirm my conclusions.

NOTE ON PATELLA KERMADECENSIS, PILSBRY.¹

BY GEO. W. TAYLOR.

More than a year ago a little parcel of limpets from Kermadec Islands was sent to me by a correspondent in New Zealand. They were sent by way of England and were there delayed so that they did not reach me until about a month ago.

I at once perceived that they belonged to an unknown species and I promptly sat down and wrote a note, with a diagnosis of the species for the NAUTILUS, but on a second thought decided not to be too hasty, and so instead of sending my note, I sent a specimen (a young one) of the shell itself to the Associate Editor asking him kindly to compare it with the series in the Philadelphia Museum and let me have his opinion.

I did this because I thought and still think it possible that the young shell may have been already described.

This morning I received the February NAUTILUS, and I find that some one else has a correspondent in Kermadec Island and that Mr. Pilsbry has been beforehand with me and named the new shell most appropriately, *Patella kermadecensis*.

However, as Dr. Pilsbry has only 2 specimens and I have 14, I venture to write a line or two to supplement his description.

I may say that in my opinion, the shell is very nearly related to *pica* Reeve which by the way is a South Pacific species according to the original descriptions, although Mr. Pilsbry in his "Manual" has transferred it to the Mauritius.

My suite of *kermadecensis* consists of 2 full grown shells and a series of 12 others ranging from 75 mm. down to 6 mm. in length. The large ones are respectively 130 mm. x 109 mm. x 41 mm. and

¹ This remarkable limpet seems to have been received by Mr. Taylor and Dr. W. H. Dall at about the same time. Dr. Dall sent to the NAUTILUS a description of the species under the name *P. Kermadecensis*, but after the Editors' description was already in print. Dall's description of the young and adult shells, with figures, will shortly be published in the Proc. Acad. N. S. Phila.—ED.

130x109x34 mm., being both considerably flatter than the specimens described by Mr. Pilsbry.

All my specimens are distinctly narrowed in front, and in this particular the species differs essentially from *P. patriarcha*, which is very round in outline. I have a specimen of *patriarcha* exactly the same *width* as the two shells above mentioned, namely, 109 mm., but its *length* is only 119 mm. Our species is further distinguished by its sculpture from both *patriarcha* and *mexicana*—the ribs being narrower and much more numerous than in *patriarcha* and decidedly heavier than in *mexicana*. Every 5th or 6th rib in the adult shell seems to be more prominent.

Although my shells are not badly eroded there is but little color observable outside, except in spots where smaller limpets have had their stations. In such places the peculiar burnt red color so characteristic of *P. argenvillei* is seen, and the same color, with an occasional spot of black, edges the interior of the shell and in a paler and browner shade blotches the spatula, which in the young shells is sometimes entirely brown. It would seem that the color of the interior becomes lighter with age, as is the case in many other species.

The muscle scar is, as Mr. Pilsbry remarks, strongly marked and callous in the adult shell, but in the young, it is not at all noticeable. This is the case also with the 2 species with which *keradecensis* is compared.

On the whole this is the very finest of the many fine species of limpets that Mr. Pilsbry has made known to science during the last few years. It has no rival in size save *P. mexicana*, except it be the at present unrecognized *P. gigantea* of Lesson from the Society Islands, which may be found to be nearly allied or perhaps identical with the present shell.

NOTICES OF NEW JAPANESE MOLLUSKS, I.

BY H. A. PILSBRY.

The species described below were collected by Mr. Frederick Stearns of Detroit, Michigan, during his second visit to Japan, in 1892. They will be illustrated in his Catalogue of Japanese shells, now in preparation.